First solar kenya



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First Solar, Inc.,,???First Solar,CdTe?·(Harold McMaster)1990,Solar Cells,Inc.,1993JD...

Crossover Kenya"s Harleen Jabbal sat down with the CEO of First Solar to talk about his company"s plans for the future of green energy in Kenya. Samir wishes to see Kenya become a solar nation. This is possible as the country receives at least 10 months" worth of sunlight per year. Through First Solar, Samir wishes to educate Kenyans on the importance of solar energy and that it is the way to go.

With the implementation of the solar energy law, house owners and building contractors have to place solar panels on their buildings for water heating. Solar companies are taking advantage of this to advance their businesses. First Solar stands out from the pack as they deal with globally know solar providers as well as German engineered products that promise quality and efficiency.

One of the major challenges First Solar faced was educating people on the importance of solar energy. First Solar engaged in one on one interactions to pass across the message that green energy is the way to go in terms of cost and benefits to nature.

A major achievement for First Solar was installation of solar product in hotels in Mombasa.

(Bloomberg) — After two years of operating solar-poweredmicrogrids in four remote villages in Kenya, First Solar Inc. and Powerhive Inc. are committing to a major expansion.

Powerhive expects to offer electricity to more than 200,000homes in Kenya from off-grid solar systems, the Berkeley, California-based microgrid developer said in a statement Wednesday.

Just 23 percent of Kenya"s population had access toelectricity in 2010, according to World Bank estimates. Thepilot projects reached more than 1,500 people who paid for theenergy with their mobile phones, proving the viability of abusiness model that First Solar and Powerhive now plan toexpand.

"It will enable us to cost-effectively reach tens ofmillions of people in rural villages unserved by grids whileoffering strong risk-weighted returns to investors," PowerhiveChief Executive Officer Christopher Hornor said in the statement. Kenya has more than 44 million residents.

With Powerhive, homes and local businesses in rural areaswill be able to purchase power for tasks including milling corn, incubating chickens and charging batteries.

First Solar, the biggest U.S. solar panel producer, made anundisclosed investment in Powerhive in 2013 and Marc van Gerven, vice president for global marketing, sits on its board.

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"Our support of Powerhive stems from a belief that we need to transform the world from being energy supply-driven todemand-driven," van Gerven said in the statement.

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Web: https://www.kary.com.pl/contact-us/ Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

